

Stencil 10

Strengthen Prestige and Influence of Communists Among Masses

1. During World War II and in the post-war years, the prestige of the Communists grew tremendously in all countries throughout the world, the influence of the Communists and Workers' Parties extended.
2. In Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria, and Albania, where, after the world-historic victory of the Soviet Union in World War II the peoples threw off the chains of capitalist slavery, established the system of people's democracy and resolutely took the path of building Socialism the Communist and Workers' Parties became the ruling parties. Under the leadership of the glorious Communist Party of China which opened up the way to Socialism for the Chinese people, the great people's revolution in China won complete victory over the forces of imperialism and feudal reaction. The Socialist Unity Party of Germany headed the struggle of the German people for a united, democratic and peace-loving Germany. The heroic Korean people, rallied around their vanguard -- the Korean Party of Labor -- are fighting bravely against the American invaders for freedom, honor, and independence.
3. In the capitalist countries, particularly in those countries where fascism ruled at one time or which experienced fascist occupation -- as for example, in Italy, France and some other countries -- the Communist Parties have become a powerful force -- a united, vigorous, effective and militant force. They have become really mass parties of the working class and rallying all the peace-loving and democratic forces. The growth of this influence was strikingly demonstrated in the Communist successes in the recent municipal elections in Italy and in the Parliamentary elections in France and Finland. Despite all the efforts of the imperialists and their right-wing Socialist servants to "smash" Communism, the number of its adherents is growing and continues to grow daily.
4. As far back as 1946, Comrade Stalin pointed out that the growing Communist influence should not be regarded as fortuitous. It is a perfectly natural phenomenon.
5. Communist influence increased and continues to grow because in the difficult years of war and fascist domination, the Communists proved to be reliable, bold and selfless fighters against fascist tyranny, for the freedom of the peoples. Communist influence increased and continues to grow because in the post-war years, when the American pretenders to world domination, following in Hitler's footsteps, openly began frantic preparations for a new war, the Communist act as indefatigable fighters for peace and friendship among the peoples,

as the most consistent and determined fighters for the national independence of their countries, for bread and democratic rights for their peoples. Communists express the fundamental and vital interests of the millions of ordinary people striving for peace, the fundamental and vital interests of their peoples.

6. "It is these millions of 'ordinary people' who, having tried the Communists in the crucible of struggle and resistance to fascism decided that the Communists fully deserved the confidence of the people. That is how the influence of the Communists grew in Europe. Such is the law of historical development". (J. Stalin)

7. The Communist and Workers' Parties grew stronger both ideologically and organizationally and today they are strong and united as never before. The great ideology of Leninism, Bolshevik strategy and tactics are the basis of their activities. The struggle for peace - the cardinal task of the Communist Parties -- links in the closest possible way the Communist Parties with the masses, and will make it possible to ensure the realization of united action by the working class, and, of this basis, attainment of national unity on the part of all democratic forces for the purpose of rallying the broad masses of the people in struggle against U.S.- British imperialism and internal reaction.

8. Tirelessly consolidating their ranks ideologically and organizationally, educating their cadres in the spirit of Marxism-Leninism and tempering them politically in the struggle for peace and the interests of the people, steadily cementing their base -- the Branch organizations and practising criticism and self-criticism, the Communist and Worker's Parties are creating ideological-political consolidation.

9. The great historic experience of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (Bolsheviks) and the experience of all Communist and Workers' Parties show that without wide contact with the masses, without constantly strengthening these ties, without ability to lend a ready ear to the masses and understand their vital needs, without readiness to teach the masses but also to learn from them -- the Party of the working class cannot be a really mass party capable of leading millions of the working class and all the working people. To ensure still better fulfillment of their historic duty, to fight even more consistently and vigorously for the cause of the working class, for the interests of the popular masses, the Communists and Workers' Parties must reinforce their bonds with the masses. Of particular significance for the Communist Parties in this respect is continued "ideological exposure and irreconcilable struggle against any manifestation of opportunism, sectarianism, and bourgeois nationalism and the struggle against the penetration of enemy agents into Party ranks". (From the Resolution of the November 1949 Meeting of the Information Bureau).

10. Resolute struggle is waged by the Communist and Workers' Parties against all manifestations of opportunism in their ranks. They are irreconcilable in relation to penetration of elements of bourgeois ideology and survivals of Social Democratism, to any relegation of the ultimate aims of the struggle of the working class. Their duty is to expose the Right-wing Socialist and Titoite agents of imperialism -- inveterate enemies of the working class. It is incumbent upon them to ensure that all Communists persistently master the all-conquering theory of Marxism-Leninism and to spare no effort in carrying out its great principles.

11. The Communist Parties are also fighting against any manifestation of sectarianism. As is known, sectarian tendencies reveal themselves in different forms:

a. At times they find expression in the fact that some Communists still remain aloof from the peace movement.

b. At other times, elements of sectarianism are revealed in the fact that some Communists fail to understand the need to wage a tireless struggle in the trade unions.

c. Sectarianism is also displayed in failure to understand the need for Communists to carry on daily work in the other mass organizations; youth, women's and peasant organizations, cooperatives, in the associations of ex-servicemen and of the resistance movement, in sports clubs, tenants' associations, cultural societies, etc.

d. Elements of sectarianism are also revealed in the fact that some Communists do not draw a line between the Right-wing Socialist leaders -- the Attlees, Mochs, Schumachers, Saragats, notorious betrayers of the working class and agents of the warmakers -- and the rank-and-file workers still inside the Socialist Parties or who are influenced by Social Democratic ideology.

e. Similar expressions of sectarianism are sometimes observed in relation to Catholic workers whom some Communists identify with the reactionary leaders of their organizations.

f. Sectarianism is also sometimes expressed in the lack of understanding by Communists of the task of organizing a broad national, people's front to combat the war danger.

12. Irreconcilable struggle against any display of opportunism and sectarianism is, therefore, one of the most vital tasks for the further ideological and organizational consolidation of the Communist and Workers' Parties, for further enhancing the influence and prestige of Communists among the masses.

13. On this path of continuing unswervingly to reinforce the unity and monolithic strength of their ranks and cementing their close contact with the masses, the Communist and Workers' Parties in the capitalist countries will win further successes in organizing the popular movement for a stable and lasting peace, in creating a broad nation-wide front of struggle against the aggressive plans of American imperialists, against the new world war which they are plotting.

Source: "Cominform Journal" (Bucharest)
24 August 1951

May 1954

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